

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/650,381

Examiner

Juanita D. Stephens

Applicant(s)

HEBERLING ET AL.

Art Unit

2853

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 3/3/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-11 and 13-36.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03 March 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                                    | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|                                                                                                                     | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                               |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Claims 2 and 12 canceled in Amendment filed 3/3/2005.

#### ***Drawings***

1. The drawings were received on 3/3/2005. These drawings are approved.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1, 3-11, 13-36 are allowed.
3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not teach suggest or render obvious the combination of the carriage including a flex cable having a pair or extended portions on opposite sides thereof for each contacting a corresponding one of the pens during insertion into the carriage and shunting electrostatic discharge (ESD) from the pens to ground before full insertion of the pens, recited in independent claims 1 and 11. This invention solves the problem of preventing ESD from damaging or destroying any sensitive electronic components on the carriage PCA.

The prior art does not teach suggest or render obvious the combination of the a flex cable mounted in the carriage for providing an electrical connection between the driver electronic and the pen when the pen is fully inserted into the carriage and including at least one extended portion having a conductive trace with an exposed portion that contact the pen during an initial phase of insertion into the carriage to shunt electrostatic discharge (ESD) from the pens to ground before the extended portion folds to allow the pen to be fully inserted into the carriage, recited in independent claims 20

and 21. This invention solves the problem of preventing ESD from damaging or destroying any sensitive electronic components on the carriage PCA.

The prior art does not teach suggest or render obvious the combination of the a flex cable that provides electrical connection between the driver electronic and the pen when the pen once the pen has been operatively mounted in the carriage, the flex cable having at least one extended portion contacting the pen during insertion into the carriage to shunt electrostatic discharge (ESD) from the pen to ground before the pen is operatively mounted in the carriage, and the extended portion being configured as a generally C-shaped loop with an open region that surrounds a plurality of conductive dimples on the flex cable, recited in independent claim 29. This invention solves the problem of preventing ESD from damaging or destroying any sensitive electronic components on the carriage PCA.

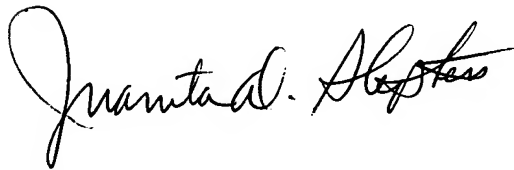
#### **Contact Information**

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Juanita D. Stephens whose telephone number is (571) 272-2153. The examiner can normally be reached on Flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juanita D. Stephens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Juanita D. Stephens  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2853

JS  
May 17, 2005